

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KAREL VAN DER BERG

APPLICATION BRANCH

Serial No. (to be assigned)

Filed: June 19, 2001

TITLE: AN IMPLEMENT FOR DEMARCATING
AN AREA AS WELL AS A VEHICLE
SUITABLE FOR BEING USED IN SAID IMPLEMENT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

To The Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is for the above-identified Application which is being filed under 35 USC Sec. 111(a) as a Continuation of co-pending International Application No. PCT/NL00/00661, filed September 19, 2000, International Publication No. WO 01/28317 A1, published April 26, 2001. Priority based thereon of September 19, 2000 is claimed and is further claimed for October 20, 1999 based on Dutch Patent Application No. 1013349.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

A Substitute Specification is submitted herewith. It is requested that the Substitute Specification be substituted for the original Specification which is a copy of International Application No. PCT/NL00/00661, a copy of which is being submitted herewith as the original Specification for the instant Application. No new matter has been added to the Substitute Specification. However,

the Substitute Specification is amended by the insertion of

--RELATED APPLICATION:

This Application is a Continuation of International Application No. PCT/NL00/00661, filed September 19, 2000---, which is, it is submitted, an appropriate amendment.

A marked-up copy of the original Specification of the invention is submitted herewith for comparison purposes.

IN THE CLAIMS:

On page 7, immediately following the Heading "CLAIMS", please insert: --Having thus disclosed my invention, what I claim as new and to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States of America is:--

Please cancel all Claims except Claim 1 without prejudice.

Please add the following Claims:

--Claim 28. An apparatus for demarcating an area which comprises a demarcation element which includes at least one section, and a vehicle connected to an end of said section, said vehicle including positioning means for adjustably positioning said end of said section of said demarcation element.

Claim 29. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said demarcation element is flexible so that it can be wound and rewound.

Claim 30. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 29 wherein said demarcation element includes tightening means for tightening said demarcation element.

Claim 31. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 comprising

an adjustable reference point which is fastened to the other end of said section.

Claim 32. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 31 which comprises tightening means for tightening the position of said demarcation element relative to said vehicle.

Claim 33. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 32 wherein said tightening means are fitted to said vehicle.

Claim 34. An Apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises a relatively stationary reference point, said section of said demarcation element extending between said reference point and said vehicle, said reference point comprising tightening means for tightening said demarcation element between said reference point and said vehicle.

Claim 35. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said section is adjustable in length, the apparatus further comprising winding means for winding and unwinding said adjustable section.

Claim 36. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 35 wherein said winding means is fitted to said vehicle.

Claim 37. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 35 which further comprises a reference point which is connected to another end of said section, said winding means being disposed at said reference point.

Claim 38. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 37 which comprises a section length measuring means for determining the length of said section between said reference point and said

vehicle.

Claim 39. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises angle measuring means associated with said demarcation element for determining the angle between a predetermined direction and said section.

Claim 40. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises a reference point, the other end of said section being connected to said reference point, angle measuring means associated with said reference point for determining the angle between a predetermined direction and said section.

Claim 41. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said vehicle is provided with solar panels for its energy supply.

Claim 42. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said vehicle is an unmanned vehicle.

Claim 43. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said vehicle comprises ground engaging rotatable members that support said vehicle, said ground engaging rotatable members consisting of essentially two members.

Claim 44. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 43 wherein said ground engaging rotatable members are connected to drive means so that they are independently drivable relative to each other.

Claim 45. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 43 wherein said ground engaging rotatable members comprise wheels which have axes which intersect at a point between them which is lower than the centers of said wheels.

Claim 46. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein

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said demarcation element is flexible, tightening means being provided for said demarcation element, said tightening means comprising a motor.

Claim 47. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which further comprises a positioning system.

Claim 48. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises a further vehicle and distance determining means for determining the distance between said first mentioned vehicle and said further vehicle.

Claim 49. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises contour determining means for determining the contours of the area to be demarcated by the apparatus.

Claim 50. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises remote control means for remotely controlling said vehicle.

Claim 51. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said demarcation element comprises a double conductor.

Claim 52. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 which comprises a computer for remotely controlling said vehicle.

Claim 53. An apparatus in accordance with Claim 28 wherein said demarcation element comprises a second section, an end of said second section being connected to said vehicle, each said section being provided with winding means which are capable of being controlled independently of each other.

Claim 54. An apparatus for demarcating an area which comprises a demarcation element that includes a plurality of

flexible sections, a plurality of vehicles, each of said vehicles being connected to at least one end of at least one of said sections, each said vehicle including positioning means and tightening means adjustably positioning at least one end of one of said sections and tightening a said section which extends between said vehicles, said vehicles each being supported by two wheels which are independently controllable by motors carried on said vehicles, the apparatus further comprising solar panels which are operatively connected to said motors for providing energy to said motors.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

In lieu of the Abstract which appears under the drawing of the invention on the cover page of the original Application submitted herewith, please substitute the ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE appended hereto.

REMARKS

The purpose of this Preliminary Amendment is: (1) To provide a Substitute Specification and an Abstract which are in formats customary for U.S. Patent Applications and which are also expressed in less stilted and more readable idiomatic English; (2) To amend the Claims in this Application to eliminate multiple-dependent claims therefrom; (3) To establish a Filing Fee; and (4) To amend the claims so that they are more nearly in formats customary for U.S. Patent Applications. It is to be understood, nevertheless, the claims originally set forth remain part of the original

disclosure of this Application.

As amended, the Application has twenty-eight (28) claims, three (3) of which are independent claims. Accordingly, a Filing Fee of \$427.00 appears to be required and our check to cover same is submitted herewith. If this is in error, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is authorized to debit or credit our Account No. 13-2000 as appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,

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and recordation fee)

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An apparatus for demarcating an area for restricting the freedom of movement of animals that may be in the area for grazing purposes. The demarcation element, as such, may be a cord, band, ribbon, strip, cable, rope or electrified or communication wire which may be two parallel wires separated by a flexible insulating material. The demarcation element is supported by a plurality of vehicles although one or two ends of same may be secured at a reference point. The vehicle is supported by two relatively large wheels which are independently connected to motors and the center of gravity of vehicle is lower than the centers of the wheels which may be perpendicular to the ground or slanted inwardly. The vehicle carries solar panels which may be mounted on the wheels if they are slanted. A connection for the demarcation element is carried on each vehicle which may include a guide member and tightening device. Also measuring devices are included for measuring the length of sections of a demarcation element between vehicles and the angles at which they extend relative to a predetermined direction.